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April 8, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305),
Food and Drug Administration, 5630
Fishers Lane,
Rm. 1061,
Rockville, MD 20852.

Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food"

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to urge the responsible and accurate labeling of irradiated food. Irradiated food should definitely be labeled with a larger than print, conspicuous symbol. The current radura is not large enough and is obscure.

The proposed alternatives; "cold pasteurization" and "electronic pasteurization" is extremely misleading and does not supply the consumer with the knowledge they need to make a choice. Similar to genetically engineered food, consumers need to have reliable information to make a smart choice.

Since irradiation is a process that can change the texture, taste, storage characteristics and nutrients of a food, it should be disclosed so as not to avoid the public.

In summary, I am urging you to:

- 1-Continue to label irradiated food
- 2-Make the symbol bigger and use the word "irradiated"

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



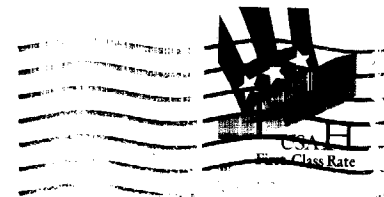
Daniel McGowan

98N-1038

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From

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